

Exclusionary Policies and Public Space Campaigns:

Campaigns and policies to promote cleanliness and beautification are often used to expel informal workers from public and private spaces, and to criminalize informal waste picking.

Privatization: Using private businesses to collect or process waste and recyclables can compete with waste pickers for access to materials.

Locked Bins: Efforts to lock public and private waste and recycling bins prevent waste pickers from safely accessing materials.

Technology: Waste management technology is

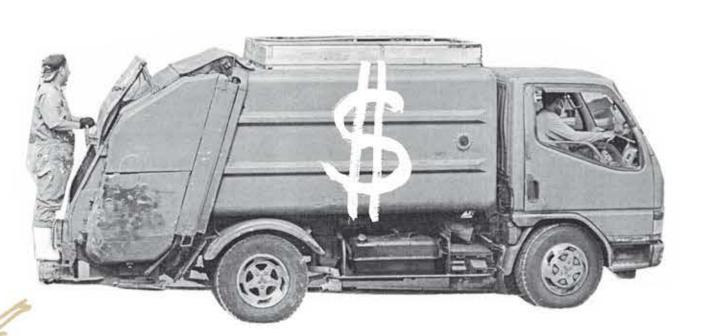
increasingly replacing human labour in waste

management systems and can enable wealthy

waste management actors to be more efficient or

attractive, thereby outcompeting waste pickers.

Waste Imports: Flooding recycling markets with large amounts of foreign recyclables reduces the price of materials in the importing country, reducing waste picker earnings. Waste imports are often contaminated with non-recyclables, resulting in the burning and dumping of residuals. This pollutes poor communities where waste pickers live.



Threats to waste picker livelihoods

Landfill Closure Without Inclusion: Landfill closures often displace large numbers of waste pickers from their work. Waste pickers can organize and advocate to be integrated into formal waste management systems outside of the landfill, such as door-to-door waste collection, recyclables sorting and processing, litter collection and public cleaning, and collection of civil construction waste.

Incineration & Chemical Recycling: Incineration and chemical recycling companies divert materials away from the mechanical recycling industry, undermining waste picker livelihoods. They also tend to be located in poor communities where waste pickers live, polluting the air and soil.



Women in Informal Employment:
Globalizing and Organizing

For more information about WIEGO's Reducing Waste in Coastal Cities project, please visit **www.wiego.org/rwcc**